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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ATTORNEY GENERAL FORD ANNOUNCES CONVICTION OF HEALTH CARE COMPANY AND ITS OWNER

Las Vegas, NV – Today, Nevada Attorney General Aaron D. Ford announced that Ashley Bunton-Dodson, 36, of Las Vegas, and Remedy Wellness and Resource Center, LLC ("Remedy Wellness"), were sentenced today in a Medicaid fraud case involving billing for services that were not provided to Medicaid recipients.

Remedy Wellness was sentenced for a category D felony offense of Submitting False Claims, Medicaid Fraud and Bunton-Dodson was sentenced for a Gross Misdemeanor offense of Intentional Failure to Maintain Adequate Records by District Court Judge Susan Johnson. Judge Johnson sentenced Bunton-Dodson to 364 days in jail, suspended, and placed her on probation for one year. As part of the sentence, Remedy Wellness was also ordered to pay \$54,000 in restitution. The fraud occurred between August 2020 and March 2021. Individuals or businesses convicted of Medicaid fraud may also be administratively excluded from future Medicaid and Medicare participation.

The investigation began after the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) received a referral from Nevada Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing & Policy (DHCFP) against Remedy Wellness, a Rehabilitative Mental Health ("RMH") provider. DCHFP alleged that Remedy Wellness submitted claims and received payments for services which were misrepresented to DHCFP and/or not provided, documented, or billed according to their contract with DHCFP. The investigation revealed that Bunton-Dodson, through Remedy Wellness, submitted claims to Medicaid asserting that RMH services were provided to recipients when in fact they were not. The lack of services and the fraudulent claims were substantiated by recipients. Further, Bunton-

Dodson and Remedy Wellness failed to maintain the required documentation supporting such purported services.

The MFCU investigates and prosecutes financial fraud by those providing healthcare services or goods to Medicaid patients. The MFCU also investigates and prosecutes instances of elder abuse or neglect. The Nevada MFCU receives 75 percent of its funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under a grant award. The remaining 25 percent is funded by the State of Nevada, MFCU. Persons convicted of Medicaid fraud may also be administratively excluded from future Medicaid and Medicare participation. Anyone wishing to report suspicions regarding any of these concerns may contact the MFCU at 702-486-3420 or 775-684-1100.

This case was investigated by the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and was prosecuted by Senior Deputy Attorney General Steve Sidhu.

View the criminal information against <u>Bunton-Dodson</u> and <u>Remedy Wellness</u>. File a <u>complaint</u> with the Office of the Nevada Attorney General.

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